



December 8, 2017

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **Ex parte filing** in WC Docket Nos. 16-271

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 6, an *ex parte* meeting was conducted by Jens Laipenieks, CEO and Steve Merriam, Federal Advocate, from Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. (ASTAC) and the undersigned from GVNW Consulting, Inc. (GVNW) with individuals from the Wireline Competition Bureau, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Office of General Counsel. Participating from the Wireline Competition Bureau were Suzanne Yelen, Alex Minard, Jesse Jachman, Jonathan Lechter and Ying Ke. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was represented by Matt Warner and the Office of General Counsel by Matt Collins.

ASTAC provided an update from its September 27, 2017, *ex parte* meetings on Alaska Plan progress, including a clarification as to when it expects to update its performance obligation target levels. The highlights for ASTAC for 2017 included installation of fiber optic drops to 100% of homes and businesses in Point Hope, Wainwright and Nuiqsut and the upgrade to 4G wireless service in Deadhorse/Prudhoe Bay and all eight North Slope villages.

With the March, 2018, deadline for the initial performance obligation report, we expressed our appreciation that Alaska Plan carriers began to have access to the HUBB reporting portal on November 6, 2017.

As required by the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* record is now filed in the above referenced docket. If there are any questions, please call me on 503.612.4409.

Respectfully submitted,

Via ECFS 12/8/17

Jeffrey H. Smith
President and CEO

Copy to: Jens Laipenieks, ASTAC
 Steve Merriam, ASTAC
 Suzanne Yelen
 Alex Minard
 Jesse Jachman
 Ying Ke
 Jonathan Lechter
 Matthew Warner
 Matthew Collins